

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 23, in which the rotation axis of the rotary distributor is disposed outwardly of the support.
- 3-4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 23, in which the conveying member and the distributor are coupled and both rotary, the knife being kept immobile during the cutting step.
6. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 5, in which the knife cuts the wire once per revolution of the rotary distributor.
7. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim 3 23, used for manufacturing a reinforcement during the manufacture of a tyre constructed progressively on the support, the support being mounted to rotate about an axis, stacking the various constituents of the tyre in order and in the place required by the architecture of the tyre.

8. (Original) Method according to claim 7, used for manufacturing a reinforcement situated in a sidewall of the tyre.

9. (Original) Method according to claim 7, used for manufacturing a reinforcement situated in a bead of the tyre.

10. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 7, in which the support is substantially toroidal in form, with a shape similar to an internal cavity of the tyre.

11. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 23, wherein the length of the sections is adjusted by appropriately adapting the linear speed imparted to the wire.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 25, in which the conveying member and the distributor are coupled together, the knife being mounted on a rotary knife holder for purposes of adjustment, and whose rotation can be locked during cutting of the wire.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 25, in which the rotary conveying member comprises a central tube, an inlet orifice of which is disposed substantially on the rotation axis, ~~the final tubular portion being aligned with an outlet orifice of the central tube.~~

16. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 25, comprising an applicator fixed to the rotary distributor.

17. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 16, in which the applicator is mounted at the end of an arm which is articulated on a fork joint fixed to the rotary distributor.

18. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 16, in which the applicator is a rotary roller.

19. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 16, in which a spring ~~(66)~~ tends to move the applicator away from the ~~rotary distributor rotor.~~

20. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 15, further including a disc mounted for rotation about the rotation axis and in which the central tube is provided to rotate about the rotation axis.

21. - 22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a reinforcement comprised of adjacent sections of reinforcement wire embedded in an elastomer matrix, the method comprising the steps of:

A. positioning, in front of an elastomeric covering of a surface-of-revolution reception surface of a support, an assembly comprising a rotary distributor and a rotary conveying member arranged to rotate about a common rotation axis located outwardly of the support, the conveying member arranged to convey a reinforcement wire to the distributor and including a tubular portion oriented substantially radially with respect to the rotation axis and disposed radially inwardly relative to the distributor, the distributor including a deflector comprised of an elbowed tube forming a corridor having a wire inlet and a wire outlet spaced farther from the rotation axis than the wire inlet, the wire inlet spaced from a wire exit orifice of the conveying member to form a gap therebetween, the rotation axis arranged such that during rotation of the distributor the wire outlet repeatedly reaches a deposit location of its travel path and passes across the elastomeric covering;

B. driving the assembly by a motor such that the distributor and the conveying member are rotated together about the rotation axis by the motor at a controlled speed,

C. feeding the wire at a controlled speed through the tubular portion and the corridor during step B;

D. cutting the wire at the gap with a knife as the wire outlet reaches the deposit location so that a section of the wire disposed in the corridor exits the corridor through the wire outlet and is deposited onto a portion of the elastomeric covering; and

E. moving the elastomeric covering relative to the assembly to present a new portion of the elastomeric covering at the deposit location, to receive another wire section.

24. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 23, wherein the rotation axis is spaced above the elastomeric covering.

25. (Currently Amended) A device for forming sections of reinforcing wire suitable for being deposited on a reception surface, comprising:

a rotary distributor mounted for rotation about a rotation axis and comprising a deflector, the deflector comprised of an elbowed tube forming a wire corridor having a wire inlet and a wire outlet spaced farther from the rotation axis than the wire inlet, wherein the wire outlet is directed to discharge wire ~~in a direction generally away from the rotation axis;~~

a rotary wire conveying member disposed radially inwardly of the distributor and mounted for rotation about the rotation axis together with the distributor, the conveying member including a final tubular portion arranged substantially perpendicular to the rotation axis and positioned to convey a wire from an exit orifice of the final tubular portion and into the wire inlet, the exit orifice being spaced from the inlet and to form a gap therebetween;

a motor for rotating the distributor and the conveying member together about the rotation axis as wire is fed through the tubular portion and the corridor; and

a knife disposed in the gap for periodically cutting the wire to form a wire section disposed in the corridor.

26. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 25, wherein the rotation axis is spaced above the elastomeric covering.